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ed, the next thing to be done is the making of a careful pencil outline; this is absolutely necessary, unless very proficient indeed, as a confused drawing, when putting on a wash with a full brush will lead to much trouble and will certainly not be a saving of time in the end.

The next care of the sketcher must be to keep clear and distinct the various distances. If this is not carefully attended to the picture will be meaningless, flat and uninteresting, no matter how painstaking and elaborate in execution. Yet, however faint and indistinct the most distant forms appear, they must be made to express their meaning and intention.

It may be borne in mind that color is by no means necessary for the representation of atmosphere and space, as will be readily seen when inspecting a clever sketch executed in neutral tints only. It is the subtle gradation of tints that gives the necessary life and vivacity. The early water color drawings by Turner are a proof of this. For years this artist seldom indulged himself with the introduction of color when studying from nature, but contented himself with the use of a limited palette, comprising only those tints more or less neutral. On this groundwork he would sometimes introduce a bit of color with telling effect. A beginner would do well to follow so notable an example, for on all hands Turner is admitted to be a master in the art of producing atmospheric effects, both in landscape and marine subjects. There is much more to be said on the method of working, but space compels me to reserve the discussion for a later chapter.



CURIOSITIES OF COST.

COST is of course a very unsafe measure of value in many instances, and yet there is a not unnatural curiosity on the part of the general public to know the mere money estimation in which certain more or less beautiful articles are held.

Here are a few somewhat remarkable examples of lavish expenditure:

The highest priced piano in America is owned by Mr. H. G. Marquand of this city. The works were made by Messrs. Steinway & Sons, and the case, which was built in London, was designed and painted by Alma Tadema. It cost \$46,000.

Sir Donald Smith, of Montreal, is the owner of the costliest piano ever made in this country. It is also a Steinway, and the case was made by Pottier & Stymus. It cost when landed in Montreal \$27,000.

The most expensive sideboard ever made in the United States owned by Judge Harry E. Packer, of Mauch Chunk, Pa. It

covers the whole side of a room, and was built by Herts Bros. for \$47,000. It is a marvel of elaborate and beautiful carving.

Mr. Marquand is also the possessor of the costliest billiard table in the country. The price was \$26,000.

Mr. J. W. Mackey furnished about \$75,000 in weight of silver and paid Tiffany & Co. \$120,000 for the work on his dinner service, which thus represents \$195,000.

The costliest string of pearls in the country belongs to a New York lady, and cost \$51,000.

Another New York lady had a solitaire diamond ring, for which she paid Tiffany & Co. \$48,000.

The late Mrs. Morgan paid \$250,000 for her necklace. Mrs. Scott Lord is the owner of a diamond necklace which cost \$250,000.

The famous picture by Meissonier, called "1807," was painted for the late Mr. A. T. Stewart. At the sale of his gallery Mr. Henry Hilton bought it for \$66,500, and presented it to the Metropolitan Museum, where it now hangs, the costliest painting in America.

Sir Donald Smith is the possessor of the highest priced painting in Canada, "The Communicants," by Jules Breton. Cost at the Seney sale \$45,000.

Mr. W. W. Corcoran, of Washington, paid the highest recorded price for an American picture. It is Church's "Niagara," and the price was \$13,000. It was reported that Legrand Lockwood paid \$25,000 for Bientadi's "Domes of the Yosemite," but as, at the distribution of his effects, the picture brought less than a fourth of that amount, the first price was probably a fable.

In the Lenox Library is a perfect copy of Mazarine or Guttenberg Bible, the first book printed with movable types. It is worth \$25,000, and nothing better has ever been done since. Mr. Brayton Ives, of this city, has an imperfect copy, for which he paid \$15,000.

Mr. J. F. Irwin, of Oswego, paid \$10,000 to J. W. Bouton for a Bible. It was originally in three volumes, but by the insertion of woodcuts, manuscripts, engravings, etchings, etc., had been expanded to sixty imperial folio volumes.

Of the original edition of the Sonnets of Wm. Shakespeare, published by George Daniel, of London, in 1609, there are two perfect copies. One is in the British Museum. For the other Dodd, Mead & Co., of this city, paid \$5,000. It is a little book about seven by four inches in size. A somewhat hard headed clerk in the establishment figures that at the price it cost \$480 an ounce.

A sixteenth century vellum manuscript, with six paintings by Giulio Clovis, cost the Lenox Library \$12,000.

At the Morgan sale Mr. Walters, of Baltimore, is reported to have paid \$18,000 for the peach blow vase, which is about seven and a half inches high.

The most expensive public building in the world is the New York State Capitol at Albany, just begun. It cost \$12,000,000. + In mathematics the sign + means that an amount can be carried to infinity.

